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Executive Director

Environmental Policy

POLICY/no 0078
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1. Introduction and purpose

As a European Union (EU) body the European Medicines Agency (EMA) acknowledges its institutional responsibility to safeguard the environment for present and future generations.

Recognising that social and civil responsibilities of the Agency's activities have the potential to affect the environment, the Agency considers that a long-term sustainable approach and proactive environmental management generates environmental, social and economic value for the community in which we operate. EMA strives to meet and exceed the expectations of our stakeholders for the prevention of pollution, the sustainable use of resources and the minimisation of waste and emissions.

2. Scope

This environment policy covers the Agency's operations and staff, also when on missions and travelling to and from work. The policy also applies to other persons such as interims, trainees, seconded national experts, delegates, contractors and visitors working within the premises of the Agency without exception.

3. Policy statement

Improving Environmental Performance

EMA's vision is to be a climate friendly and resource efficient organisation and in that context in order to fulfil these commitments, the Agency's leadership will provide strategic direction and promote the continual improvement of environmental management at every level.

The Agency is committed to:

- Ensure compliance with local, national and EU environmental legislation, as well as regulatory and voluntary obligations within the remits of existing regulations;
- Maintain an open dialogue to promote and share environmental knowledge and best practice with all stakeholders, including but not limited to other EU Institutions through the Groupe



Interinstitutionnel de Management Environnemental (GIME) network and with other EU Agencies via the Greening Network for exchange of experiences and best practice;

- Maintain staff's awareness and understanding of environmental issues by setting up a network of staff environmental ambassadors, organised as the Green Group, to promote good environmental practices throughout the Agency;
- Ensure EMA staff, contractors and delegates at all levels are aware of their environmental responsibilities and empower them to participate in efforts to improve the Agency's environmental performance;
- Set targets and objectives for continuous improvements, implement measures to achieve these and put in place systems to monitor their progress;
- Encourage suppliers by including environmental elements within the minimum requirements of procurement procedures' technical specification documents where relevant;
- Prepare for implementation of a carbon off-setting regime of the environmental impact in line with other EU Agency's and Institutions under existing and future regulations.

In order to minimise our environmental impacts and continually improve our performance EMA has a target to register to the European Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) and to each year publish a statement of its environmental performance.

4. Related documents

- Environmental Management Roadmap (endorsed by EXB – 14 January 2020) – EMA/223974/2020
- EMS Manual – EMA/679198/2016 to be updated

5. Changes since last revision

The policy was amended following the Agency's relocation to Amsterdam and the re-start of its environmental management activities taking into account updates of the EMAS legislation and developments applicable to EU agencies and institutions in preparation for the Agency's registration to EMAS.

Amsterdam, 14 January 2021

[Signature on file]

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